

Remarks

In response to the Office Action dated September 13, 2004, Applicant elects, with traverse, the species shown in Figure 4 for examination.

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 are subject to an election requirement.

Applicant notes the objections to the drawings. Applicant further submits formal drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d). In a telephone conversation with Examiner Hartmann, it was discussed that the specification provides an adequate description of where the lower levels of traffic lead to once obstructed in the drawings by the upper levels of traffic. In addition, the undersigned and the Examiner agreed that attempting to add hidden lines to show the routes of the lower levels of traffic would add clutter to the drawings rather than provide additional clarity. Examiner Hartmann indicated that he would forward the herein submitted formal drawings for review by a draftsman. For the reasons set forth above, Applicant requests that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-3, 6-11, and 14-18 are readable upon the species illustrated by Figure 4. Applicant further submits that at least Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, and 18 are considered to be generic.

The requirement for election is traversed because the three species identified in the Office Action clearly are related. Applicant also submits that a thorough search and examination of the species illustrated by Figure 4 would be relevant to the examination of the species illustrated by Figures 2 and 3, and would not be a serious burden on the examiner. Additionally, requirements for election are not mandatory under 35 U.S.C. 121. Accordingly, reconsideration of the election requirement is requested.

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In view of the foregoing, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert E. Slenker", written over a horizontal line.

Robert E. Slenker

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